

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

1-4 *(Cancelled)*

5. *(Previously presented)* A variable-optical-characteristic optical unit, comprising:
a variable-focus optical element having a fluid portion, and an electrode adjacent to said
fluid portion; and

a power source unit and a driving circuit for driving said variable-optical-characteristic
optical unit, wherein:

said power source unit or driving circuit includes a booster member that is connected to
the power source unit and generates a voltage necessary in said driving circuit, wherein the
booster member includes a transformer using a coil or a piezoelectric transformer, and

said variable-optical-characteristic optical unit is capable of achieving optical deflection.

6. *(Previously Presented)* A variable-optical-characteristic optical unit according to
claim 5, wherein electrostatic force or piezoelectric effect is used for driving said variable-
optical-characteristic optical unit.

7-20 *(Cancelled)*

21. *(Previously presented)* A variable-optical-characteristic optical unit having a
deformable optical surface, comprising:

a variable-optical-characteristic optical unit having said deformable optical surface; and

a control system for driving said variable-optical-characteristic optical unit, wherein said
variable-optical-characteristic optical unit includes a fluid portion for deforming said deformable
optical surface and an electrode adjacent to said fluid portion, and said control system includes a
booster member that is connected to a power source, and for applying a voltage necessary for
driving said variable-optical-characteristic optical unit,

wherein the booster member includes a transformer using a coil or a piezoelectric transformer.

22. *(Previously Presented)* The variable-optical-characteristic optical unit according to claim 21, which is a varifocal lens or a variable mirror.

23. *(Cancelled)*

24. *(Previously Presented)* An imaging system, comprising an image pickup device and an imaging optical system for which a variable-optical-characteristic optical unit as recited in any one of claims 5, 21, and 22 is used.

25. *(Previously presented)* An imaging system including a display unit, comprising a variable-focus optical element,
a power source unit and a driving circuit for driving said variable-focus optical element,
a computing unit,
an image pickup device,
an imaging optical system, wherein said power source unit or said driving circuit includes a booster member that is connected to a power source, and generates a voltage necessary in said driving circuit, and
a display configured to be in communication with and to display an output signal from the variable-focus optical element,
said variable-focus optical element is capable of achieving optical deflection,
said computing unit examines a high-frequency component of each image picked up while being defocused, and the position where the high-frequency component reaches a maximum is determined to be an in-focus position, and
said variable-focus optical element is used for autofocusing of said imaging optical system.

26. *(Previously presented)* An imaging system including a display unit, comprising

a variable-focus optical element having a deformable optical surface,
a control system for driving said variable-focus optical element,
a computing unit,
an image pickup device,
an imaging optical system, wherein said control system includes a booster member that is connected to a power source, and operable to apply a voltage necessary for driving said variable-focus optical element, and
a display configured to be in communication with and to display an output signal from the variable-focus optical element,
said computing unit examines a high-frequency component of each image picked up while being defocused, and the position where the high-frequency component reaches a maximum is determined to be an in-focus position, and
said variable-focus optical element is used for autofocusing of said imaging optical system.

27.-39. *(Cancelled)*

40. *(Previously Presented)* A cellular phone having said imaging system as recited in claim 24.

41. *(Previously Presented)* A cellular phone having said imaging system as recited in claims 25 or 26.